



Town of Garner NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Two Citizens Honored with Stevens Award

Beverly Adams and Dr. Johnny Bagwell have been named co-recipients of the 2015 James R. Stevens Service to Garner Award.

The award is bestowed on citizens who have made substantial, outstanding contributions to Garner over a significant number of years. Non-residents of Garner are eligible if the award committee deems that they meet the necessary criteria. The award can be awarded posthumously.

Ms. Adams is a Garner High School alumna. Her civic involvement began with the Garner Jaycettes in the mid-1970s. She held every office including president and was active on the regional levels of Jaycee Women. Her favorite project was the annual Operation Santa Claus, which benefited local needy children.

In 1991, Ms. Adams became a charter member of the Miss Garner Scholarship Pageant Committee. She served on the executive committee of the Miss North Carolina organization and accompanied 18 Miss North Carolinas to the Miss America Pageant, including Dana Stephenson Dixon and Lisa Bamford—Miss Garners who became Miss North Carolina.

Ms. Adams has coordinated the sponsors reception for Broadway Voices every season and, on several occasions, has catered it herself. She is also a former board member for the Towne Players of Garner and served as coordinator for the front-of-the-house volunteers. She currently serves on the Town of Garner's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources Advisory Board. This past year, Ms. Adams served on the Garner YMCA's We Build People campaign.

Dr. Bagwell also is a graduate of Garner High School. After completing his residency in 1979, he returned to Garner and opened a family practice medical office on Main Street. Under his leadership, Garner Family Practice grew to be the largest primary care practice in Wake County with eight

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physicians and one nurse practitioner. He retired in 2013.

Dr. Bagwell was an active member of the Garner Rotary Club from 1979 to 1998, serving as president in 1994. He received the Paul Harris Fellow honor that year and also won the Outstanding Rotarian Award.

Dr. Bagwell was instrumental in forming the Department of Family Practice at WakeMed hospital in Raleigh and served as chairman of the department in the early 1980s. He was also active in the North Carolina Academy of Family Physicians and served as president in 1992.

Dr. Bagwell worked closely with the Town of Garner to save the Old Garner High School building, which now houses the Garner Performing Arts Center. But one of his fondest accomplishments of all was serving for many years as team doctor for the Garner High School football team.

This year's award winners were selected by a panel of judges that includes Town officials, a Garner Chamber of Commerce representative, a Stevens family member or descendant and other members of the community. Ms. Adams and Dr. Bagwell will be recognized at the beginning of the Aug. 18 Town Council meeting, which starts at 7 p.m. There will be a reception in the lobby of building B of Town Hall (outside the Council Chambers) at 6 p.m.

Ms. Adams and Mr. Bagwell will receive engraved plaques, and engraved plates bearing their names will be added to the plaque honoring previous winners that currently is displayed at Town Hall.

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